Growth rate of judges vis-a-vis crimes

2306. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of judges in the country;

(b) the rate of growth in number of judges during post independence period;;

(c) the rate of growth in crimes and the number of criminals during the same period; and

(d) when there was a clear evidence of higher rate of growth in crimes than the judges for a long period, why has Government failed to meet the demand for more judges in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) The sanctioned strength of Judges in the Supreme Court is 26, including the Chief Justice of India. The approved strength of Judges in all the High Courts is 615.

(b) Since 1950, the sanctioned strength of Judges in the Supreme Court has increased a little more than three times. The approved strength of Judges in High Courts has increased about four times since 1955.

(c) As per available information, the incidence of total crimes in India during 1995 was 60,90,000 as against 38,60,000 in 1971.

(d) Judge strength in the Supreme Court and High Courts has been increased, from time to time, in line with the institution, disposal and pendency for cases.

Review of obsolete laws and regulations

2307. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI:

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN:

SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:

DR. B. B. DUTTA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing to set up a Committee to review obsolete laws and regulations which have become irrelevant with deregulation and liberalisation of the economy;

(b) whether it will be a single Committee for the Government as a whole or will Committees be formed at the Ministry level; and

(c) whether Government are thinking of including representatives from Chambers of Commerce and Industry, etc in these Committees, so that their expertise and view points is also reflected in the recommendations by such Committees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry/Department will constitute an expert group with one Chairman, one Member and one Member Secretary. At the apex level, there will be a Commission for Legal Reforms.

(c) One of the Members of the expert group will be a representative of the consumer of relevant laws